

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 PC-01 CU-02 AID-05 IGA-01 SAM-01

EB-07 AGR-05 COME-00 SIL-01 LAB-04 SP-02 NSC-05

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 SSO-00

NSCE-00 HEW-02 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 INRE-00 /084 R

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----- 128110

O R 282335Z AUG 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS:PFOR, EAID, TP, US
SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE TO SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

REF: A. LIBREVILLE 1304; B. LIBREVILLE 1323; C. YAOUNDE
2928

1. USG WOULD LIKE TO RESPOND IN POSITIVE WAY TO STP RE-
QUEST FOR ASSISTANCE. BUDGET AND STAFF LIMITATIONS ARE
SEVERE, BUT THERE ARE SEVERAL POSSIBLE LINES OF ACTION
WHICH MIGHT BE CONSIDERED.

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2. SCHOLARSHIPS

(A) 100,000 DOLLAR SCHOLARSHIP OFFER DELIVERED BY USDEL IS
SEPARATE AND DISTINCT FROM HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY AAI WITH AID FINANCING. HOWEVER,

ONE APPROACH MIGHT BE TO CHANNEL SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS THROUGH AAI TO STP. THIS WOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF AAI ADMINISTRATIVE FRAMEWORK ALREADY IN PLACE. ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE TO HAVE AID/W HANDLE ARRANGEMENTS DIRECTLY, WORKING THROUGH EMBASSY LIBREVILLE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT (PREPARATION OF DOCUMENTS, ETC.).

(B) UNDER EITHER APPROACH FIRST STEP IS FOR GSTP TO IDENTIFY PRIORITY TRAINING NEEDS. IF UNDERGRADUATE TRAINING DESIRED, OFFER MIGHT FUND ABOUT FOUR PERSONS FOR FOUR YEARS EACH. ALTERNATIVELY, SHORT TERM PRACTICAL TRAINING FOR

GREATER NUMBER, TO HELP INCREASE CAPACITY PERFORM CURRENT JOBS, MIGHT BE MORE APPROPRIATE -- OR COMBINATION OF TWO APPROACHES. SUGGEST EMBASSY INDICATE OUR WILLINGNESS BE RESPONSIVE THEIR NEEDS IN PRIORITY DEVELOPMENT AREAS AND REQUEST THAT GSTP COMMUNICATE REQUIREMENTS AND IMPLEMENTATION PREFERENCE TO EMBASSY. WE WOULD THEN WORK OUT PROCEDURES.

3. DISASTER RELIEF

REGARDING REFUGEE PROBLEM, WE DO NOT UNDERSTAND WHY RETURNING SAO TOMEANS WOULD NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR UNHCR ASSISTANCE. IF IMMEDIATE PROBLEM EXISTS, SUGGEST GSTP EXPLORE THIS POSSIBILITY FURTHER. EXTENT AND NATURE OF NEED FOR REFUGEE PROBLEM NOT CLEAR FROM REFTL, BUT AID ASSISTANCE CAN BE REQUESTED FOR DISASTER SITUATION INVOLVING FOOD AND HEALTH EMERGENCY REQUIREMENTS. SUGGEST EMBASSY EXPLORE NATURE OF PROBLEM IN MORE DETAIL AND ADVISE. BEGIN FYI: THIS WOULD APPEAR TO BE MOST PROMISING AVENUE FOR IMMEDIATE AND VISIBLE U.S. CONTRIBUTION, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF FACT THAT THERE IS NO RPT NO POSSIBILITY OF STP BUDGET SUPPORT FUNDS FROM AID. END FYI.

4. OTHER AID ASSISTANCE

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(A) GSTP MAY ALSO BE ABLE TO TAP RESOURCES OF SOME OF THE AFRICAN REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO WHICH AID ALREADY PROVIDING ASSISTANCE. STP MIGHT WISH CONTACT AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK IN ABIDJAN AND ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES IN ACCRA WHICH PROBABLY MOST USEFUL.

(B) IN MEANTIME, AID/W WILL EXPLORE POSSIBLE INTEREST OF US VOLUNTARY AGENCIES IN UNDERTAKING (WITH AID GRANT SUPPORT) RELIEF NEEDS WHICH MAY BE IDENTIFIED BY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ON ISLANDS.

5. AID WOULD LIKE TO BE RESPONSIVE TO STP DEVELOPMENT

NEEDS BUT ITS MANPOWER AND ADMINISTRATIVE LIMITATIONS WILL OBVIOUSLY IMPOSE CONSTRAINT ON AMOUNT OF TIME IT CAN DEVOTE TO STP PROGRAMS. THUS, EMPHASIS ON NEED TO ASSESS PRACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISMS. AS NECESSARY FIRST STEP, AID PREPARED TO SEND AN OFFICIAL TO VISIT STP (PERHAPS IN OCTOBER) FOR DISCUSSION ON SCHOLARSHIPS AND POSSIBLE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE IF GSTP SHOULD DESIRE.

6. SELF-HELP

DEPT PREPARED TO CONSIDER REQUEST FOR MODEST SELF-HELP

FUND ALLOCATION FOR STP, BUT HAS MISGIVINGS ABOUT HOW EASILY IT COULD BE ADMINISTERED FROM LIBREVILLE. STARTING PROGRAM FROM SCRATCH IS COMPLICATED PROPOSITION AT BEST, AND PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF DISTANCES INVOLVED, UNLESS IT CAN BE TIED TO EXISTING PROJECT FOR WHICH ADMINISTRATIVE FRAMEWORK ALREADY IN PLACE. WOULD WELCOME EMBASSY'S VIEWS ON THIS.

7. PEACE CORPS

PEACE CORPS FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO CONSIDER MODEST PROGRAM FOR STP. BECAUSE OF FUND LIMITATIONS, WOULD PREFER, IF POSSIBLE, TO TIE IN WITH PROJECTS TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY OTHER BILATERAL OR MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE AGENCIES, IN ORDER TAKE ADVANTAGE OF MATERIAL SUPPORT. PC/W PREPARED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO STP BEFORE END OF CALENDAR YEAR, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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IF GSTP INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING FURTHER.

8. CULTURAL EXCHANGE

THOUGH CULTURAL EXCHANGE FALLS OUTSIDE DEFINITION OF ASSISTANCE PER SE, BELIEVE CU COULD OFFER PROGRAMS RESPONSIVE TO STP DEVELOPMENT NEEDS. CU/AF WILLING TO PROVIDE LIMITED CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM, WHICH COULD INCLUDE ONE GRADUATE-LEVEL SCHOLARSHIP FOR US STUDY, IV GRANTS FOR GSTP OFFICIALS TO CONSULT WITH PRIVATE AND PUBLIC AMERICANS ON DEVELOPMENTAL AFFAIRS, INDIVIDUALLY DESIGNED SPECIALIST PROJECTS (SUCH AS A RADIO BROADCASTER INTERNSHIP) FOR MIDDLE-LEVEL TECHNOCRATS, VISITS TO THE ISLANDS BY ONE OR TWO SPECIALISTS WHO WOULD CONSULT WITH OFFICIALS

AND SPEAK AT SEMINARS ON LOCAL PROBLEMS, AND/OR POSSIBLY THE ASSIGNMENT OF A U.S. PROFESSOR TO TEACH AND DEVELOP NEW, MORE RELEVANT CURRICULA FOR SECONDARY AND POST-SECONDARY LEVEL EDUCATION. BEGIN FYI. POST SHOULD SUBMIT PROPOSAL SIMILAR TO CU PORTION OF ANNUAL FISCAL YEAR COUNTRY PROGRAM PROPOSAL TO CU/AF. END FYI.

9. FOLLOWING PRESENTATION OF FOREGOING TO TROVOADA,

AMBASSADOR MIGHT TAKE OPPORTUNITY TO MENTION THAT US LOOKS FORWARD TO WORKING WITH GSTP IN UN. WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO ASSIST PRIME MINISTER DURING HIS FIRST VISIT TO NEW YORK FOR 7TH SPECIAL SESSION, AND AF'S REPRESENTATIVE AT US MISSION, JAY KATZEN (TEL 212-826-4510) STANDS READY TO BE OF ANY ASSISTANCE POSSIBLE IF TROVOADA WISHES CONTACT HIM. INGERSOLL

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